

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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NOVEMBER 10, 2005 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRINGFIELD MAN SENTENCED FOR CHILD PORN, METH

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for possessing child pornography and distributing methamphetamine.

Kenneth B. Bishop, 33, of Springfield, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to 12 years and seven months in federal prison without parole, followed by supervised release for the rest of his life. The court also ordered **Bishop** to forfeit to the government a desktop computer, 49 CD-ROMs, and a Kodak Compact Flash memory card, all of which were used to commit the offense of possessing child pornography.

On May 16, 2005, **Bishop** pleaded guilty to being in possession of child pornography as well as a separate federal indictment that charges him with participating in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

Bishop admitted that, from December 2003 to June 2004, he directed the transportation of methamphetamine and marijuana from the Dallas, Texas, area to Springfield. **Bishop** arranged three shipments of the controlled substances in a co-conspirator's vehicle, including 440.8 grams of methamphetamine and 15 kilograms of marijuana that was seized by law enforcement officers on June 13, 2004. When officers searched **Bishop's** residence that same day, he was in possession of an additional 466.85 grams of methamphetamine and six kilograms of marijuana. **Bishop** admitted that he intended to distribute some or all of the controlled substances – both in his home and in the vehicle – to another person or persons.

During the search of his home, law enforcement officers also discovered the child pornography that **Bishop** had stored on his computer equipment and related media. **Bishop** admitted that he stored many other images of child pornography which had been deleted or otherwise removed. Among the images, Graves said, was an image of a previously identified

victim of child exploitation, who was the victim of her father's photographic exploitation of her between the ages of 6 and 13.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Robyn L. McKee and Richard E. Monroe. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Secret Service, the Springfield, Mo., Police Department and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow